

THE ATHENS POST.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

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THE POST.

ATHENS, FRIDAY, JULY 11, 1851.

BALTIMORE, July 2.

FURTHER BY THE AFRICA.—France is considerably agitated. The debate on the Constitution continues with great violence and Cavaignac has determined to take up arms in case the President should seek to prolong his term of office. A melée occurred in the National Assembly, originating from offensive words used by Monsr. Leon Faucher.

Portugal is financially much embarrassed, and further disturbances are expected. A Spanish squadron is stationed off Lisbon to keep the Revolutionary party in check.

China, the accounts by the India mail state, is likely to have her ruling dynasty overturned, as the rebellion therein is making headway.

THE NEW COSTUME.—Considerable excitement was produced in our streets last Friday evening by the appearance of two ladies "belonging to the most respectable families in town," who were dressed in stockings that had holes in the heels.

SOUTHERN CONGRESS.—The Charleston Courier of the 19th inst., contains the proclamation of Gov. Means, of South Carolina, (who signs himself "Governor and Commander-in-Chief") to the managers of election throughout the State, to hold an election on the 2d Monday in October next, and the day following, for two Deputies from each Congressional District of the State, who are to represent the State in a Southern Congress. This is done according to an act of the last Legislature.

The Southern Congress, however, from present prospects, will be a very meagre affair.—The disposition to join South Carolina in such a convocation, is neither general nor cordial as far as may be judged by public indications.

TORONTO, June 28.

In the Canadian Parliament yesterday the Attorney General, Mr. Fortin, announced that the French party intended to oppose secularization of the Protestant clergy reserves. The question will probably lead to a general agitation, looking to a dissolution of the Union of the Provinces.

MONTPELIER, June 28.

POLITICS IN THE GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE.—Hon. Lucius B. Peck, nominated for Governor by the Free-Soil Convention at Burlington, declines to be a candidate, and gives his reasons in a letter in the Montpelier Patriot.

He says that he cannot assent to the resolutions passed by the Convention, inasmuch as he believes the Fugitive Slave Law to be constitutional—and he cannot consent to the act passed by the last Legislature, authorizing the State Courts to take by habeas corpus a slave out of the hands of the United States officers, as a just exercise of the power of the State.

LATIN PRESCRIPTIONS.—A child, named Emeline Harwood, aged two years and a half, met with its death last week in New York, from a mistake having been committed by a clerk in a drug store, in the preparation of a medicine for hooping cough, prescribed by a physician in the Latin language. An inquest was held, and a verdict returned to the effect, that the child came to her death by hooping cough exciting inflammation of the lungs and pleura, and that her death was hastened by the error of the druggist, who put up the prescription. The clerk was thereupon arrested, and held to bail in the sum of five hundred dollars to answer any indictment that might be found against him by the grand jury. The Commercial Advertiser remarks in the most caustic terms on this case, and pertinently observes, that the repeated instances of mortality occasioned by the carelessness of physicians in writing, and of druggists in putting up prescriptions, seem to have no effect whatever in inducing the exercise of greater caution.—*Char. Cour.*

It is said that the only crop which has failed in this section the present season, is the black-berry crop.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, June 29.

The President returned, last night, from Richmond. He was much pleased with his reception there, and also with whatever he saw of the "old dominion."

Mr. Webster is so much gratified with his excursion in the Valley of Virginia that he will remain there several days longer. Great preparation are here making for the celebration of the fourth of July.

General Scott is here and is very quiet and reserved on political subjects. He has not yet indicated his assent or dissent to the doctrines of the Pennsylvania "Free-soil Convention," by which he was nominated for the Presidency on the 24th inst. He would cease to be acceptable, as a nominee, to the free-soil party, should he disavow their doctrines and principles. His only hope of success is in the preservation of a profound reserve.

The Democratic party of Pennsylvania will hold a State Convention on the 4th of March next, for the purpose of choosing delegates to a Democratic National Convention that will assemble next May or June, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency. Already, the friends of Mr. Buchanan claim for him a delegation from Pennsylvania, favorable to his nomination. He has, however, many opponents in his own party, and in General Cass he has a rival in his own State.

It is now alleged, in opposition to General Cass, that he did not vote for the fugitive act, but though present in the Senate when the question was put, dodged it. The maintenance of this act is made the test, both by national whigs and democrats, of fidelity to the Union.

The latest proceedings of the Court Martial on Brigadier General Talcott indicate the probability that the discrepancy between Gen. Talcott's statements and the actual facts will be reconciled. He must show that he authorized no contract and was ignorant that any was made. At the same time his letter of 6th Nov. to Col. Huger was sufficient to warrant that officer in giving an order to Dr. Carmichael for the shot, but Col. H. also very properly refused to sanction the transfer of the order or contract to Mr. Anderson, and the contract was not, therefore, executed.

Mr. Anderson appears to be the sufferer in the case, for he paid \$6,500 to Doctor Carmichael for the contract.—*Charleston Courier.*

THE NEW THREE-CENT PIECE.—It having been suggested that the new three-cent piece might be counterfeited, the Philadelphia North American goes into a careful estimate of the value of the piece; and shows that the three-cent piece is actually worth two cents, nine mills, and six-tenths of a mill. Four-tenths of a mill will be rather poor pay for counterfeiting.

During the week ending at 12 o'clock on Monday, June 30th, there were 173 deaths in St. Louis, of which 149 were of cholera.

DEATH AT SEA.—Intelligence has been received of the death of Mrs. McLane, who was accompanying her husband, son of the Hon. Louis McLane, of Maryland, an officer of the United States Navy, to whom she had been but recently married, to a station on the Pacific, but was arrested at Rio Janeiro by the yellow fever, which is prevailing there to a great extent. She was a sister to Lieut. Bache, of the navy, drowned in California some months since.—*Balt. Sun,* June 23.

SOLDIERS' WIVES.—A Judge of Probate in Minnesota territory, to whom a U. States soldier at Fort Snelling recently made application for a discharge, on the ground that he could not find suitable quarters at the Fort for his wife, granted the discharge, and held that if the Government enlists a husband it must provide suitable accommodations for the wife also, that every enlisted soldier may have a wife provided for.

A GREAT SNAKE.—The good people of McKeesport (Pa.) have waked up a sea serpent on dry land. The story goes that a snake has been traversing the neighborhood, and was seen by several reputable, good and true citizens of the ballistics, as thick as a stove pipe and nearly thirty feet long. This is truly something of a snake and it is said he has excited the showmen of the West to such a degree that a thousand dollars has been offered for his scalp, and two thousand dollars for his snakeship alive and kicking, with his scalp on.

COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.—The Indiana papers are exuberantly complimentary to each other just now. One replies to the assaults of an antagonist—"When we quarrel, we quarrel with a foe worthy of our steel." Whereupon his foe replies—"Try your hand on the Liberty brand. That was worthy of your steel some years ago." Mysterious insinuation, that!

WHO COMES HERE? GREENADIER!—They have a boy in Providence, R. I., but 19 years old, who is eight feet high, and weighs 400 pounds. It is believed by physicians that he will grow two feet higher. He can carry a barrel of flour under each arm. He is going to the World's Fair.

THE NEXT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The next Congress will doubtless be as important, to say the least, as any that has preceded it, and it may be of interest to our readers to know the character of that portion of the delegation which has already been elected. Of the thirty-one States, eighteen have chosen full delegations, including the great States of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio. The political character of this delegation may be gathered from the following table, compiled by a cotemporary, in which the delegates are classified as Whigs, Democrats, Free Soil Whigs, and Free Soil Democrats.

	Whig.	Dem.	F. S.	F. S.
			Whig.	Dem.
Maine,	2	5	0	0
N. Hampshire,	0	2	2	0
Vermont,	3	1	0	0
Massachusetts,	7	0	3	1
Rhode Island,	1	0	0	0
Connecticut,	1	2	0	0
New York,	17	16	0	1
New Jersey,	1	4	0	0
Pennsylvania,	8	15	1	0
Delaware,	0	1	0	0
S. Carolina,	0	7	0	0
Florida,	1	0	0	0
Michigan,	2	1	0	0
Ohio,	8	10	1	2
Illinois,	1	7	0	0
Wisconsin,	0	1	0	2
Iowa,	0	2	0	0
Missouri,	3	1	0	1
	55	76	6	8

According to this table, the Democrats have a majority of 23, if we count the Democratic Free Soilers for them; if against them, and for the Whigs, a majority of 7 only—counting at the same time the Free Soil Whigs for the Whig party proper. If these latter vote otherwise, the figures of course will be materially changed.

The remaining thirteen States, which are yet to hold their elections, are: Tennessee, Virginia, Maryland, Indiana, Kentucky, Arkansas, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and California. These States were represented in the last House by 24 Whigs, 60 Democrats, and 1 Democratic Free Soiler.

In the event of no choice by the people in the next Presidential election, the selection of a Chief Magistrate will be thrown into the next House of Representatives.—In that case, each State will be entitled to one vote, and the votes of sixteen will be necessary to a choice. In the 18 States enumerated in the above table, the Whigs have majorities in five, the Democrats in seven. In the remaining six States, three have divided delegations, and in the other three the Free Soilers are said to hold the balance of power. Of the 13 States yet to elect, the Whigs had majorities in the last Congress, in two—the Democrats in the remainder, with the exception of Maryland, which was equally divided.

Thus, we believe, stands the present aspect of the next House of Representatives. What change the coming elections may produce in its features, of course we have no idea of conjecturing. We leave that to our political friends.—*Ex. paper.*

A LEGAL DECISION.—A farmer, at the west had remarked during the sittings of the circuit court, part of his cornfield was beaten down in a regular track of ten or twelve paces in length, as if by the ranging of some animal to and fro. Anxious to detect the cause, he enclosed himself one day among the thick leaves, and observed about the hour of adjournment, one of the judges cautiously approaching the spot.—Arriving at the path, he commenced pacing it up and down, with knit brow and an air of cogitation, and at length, drawing a small chip from his pocket, he spit on one side of it, balanced it an instant on his finger, ripped it up in the air and watching its descent intently, exclaimed, as it fell—"Woe for the defendant—pay for plaintiff!" and then stooping down, "Plaintiff has it!" The farmer avoided all litigation from that moment.

FOWL TRANSACTION.—Two men laid an egg in our office last Saturday, that bears the palm away from any thing in that line, of which we have lately heard. Its egg-act measure is 7 inches by 9 in circumference, and within its ample walls are found three yolks. Its weight was six ounces. As it came from that place, it is supposed to be "the last lay of the swan of East Avon," which is a figure of speech used to designate a youthful and ambitious pullet, who is bound to take the prize at the State Fair.—*Rochester American.*

Even thou' entertaining the highest consideration for the veracity of the above paragraph, we think he owes it to himself and to the public to explain. "Two men laid an egg!" Pro-di-gious! Send them to Barcum immediately.

CALIFORNIA IN FUNDS.—On Thursday morning a Wall street dealer in gold dust bought \$100,000 worth from one passenger in the Crescent City; and it is estimated that the passengers in that steamer brought \$2,000,000, besides what was on the manifest.

A chaplain was once preaching to a class of collegians about the formation of habits. "Gentlemen," said he, "close your ears against bad discourses." The scholars immediately clapped their hands to their ears.

BUTTERING HER HEELS.—The dramatic personae of the following short but sweet dialogue are Mrs. Smith, an English lady, and her new found Irish kitchen maid, Margaret.

Mrs. Smith.—Margaret.

Margaret.—Marm.

Mrs. Smith.—As it is Friday to-day, and Mr. Smith and myself are to dine out, you'd better stop the fish man and get some fresh fish for your dinner.

Margaret.—Yes, marm, I'll get some nice eels and fry 'em.

Mrs. Smith.—Margaret, you may make some toast for tea, if you like; here is some fresh butter, that you may put on your heels, if you like.

Margaret.—Thank ye, Mrs. Smith much obliged to ye.

Mrs. Smith.—Margaret! (impatiently.) Margaret hurries up stairs on her bare feet, with her stockings in her hand, and is thus accosted by her mistress: "What on earth are you doing with your stocking off at this time o' day!"

Margaret.—Why marm, you told me to butter my heels, and I'm bin doin it.

Mrs. Smith.—Oh, dear me, 'ow stupid these Irish h're!

STAND FROM UNDER!—The Richmond Whig walks into the conceits of the men-women and women men reformers who have hit upon the Turkish dress for females, with a ferocity quite startling. Here is a bit of the Whig's mind:

"Turkish dress, forsooth! What! Do they fancy they're in Turkey! Do they want to get into some harem! Alas! such as they are not bought for harems. Moreover, we're Christians, not Mahomedans; and we don't want Turkish wives. But the very Turks don't wear such clothes except within doors, where no eye but a husband's or a father's sees them. When they go out, they're dressed in that theatrical tawdry, but covered with a mantle and closely veiled.

"Not that we or any body else, except that exquisite of dress, Horacio Greely, care a straw, or would dissuade them from any oddity which they, in their frightfulness, may fancy. 'Tis not for that, then, we speak; but merely in justice to manners and modesty among the Turks. For the fact is, that no Turk except the Turks of a circus, ever went about in such a costume as that. Suppose, however, it were so Turkish, who wants to see his wife or daughter running about in the garb of a circus girl? Who could be brought to fall in love with a skipping thing that looks as if it were going to ride in the ring upon one foot, or leap through the hoops.

"Oh! gentle and sweet and shrinking! ye dames and maidens of the South! high-bred yet simple, modest as ye are courtly! 'tis not to you that anything need be said about such unbecoming follies of the mind or of the person. We shall not talk to gentlemen against tripping the streets in all the guise of a ball-dancer dressed for the stage at mid-day, and just as little shall we admonish you against becoming the rivals of Abby Folson or any other show-artist. Our scuffs are directed to another quarter."

Printers have an honorable employment, and one that the first men have filled; an occupation which is, to all who will be faithful to themselves in its pursuits, the path of honor and eminence. Erskine was a printer! Franklin! Beranger, the great French poet, was a printer! The great French Historian was a printer! Printers have become our State governors, they take seats among our senators, and as leading editors, have wielded pens that control the destinies of nations.

An innocent young sportsman, in order to shoot a squirrel on the top of a tall tree, climbed another one near by, and on being asked his reason for so foolish a freak said that "he didn't want to strain his gun by a long shot."

Snooks wonders where all the pillow-cases go to. He says he never asked a girl what she was making, when she was engaged in white sewing, without having for her the pillow-case.

ELOQUENCE.—"But as I said before, we have proved to you where that town line is. Yes, gentlemen of the jury, there it is, and there it will remain forever; and all the ingenuity of my learned brother can never efface it—can never wash it out. No, gentlemen, he may plant one foot on the utmost verge of the outermost ring of the planet Saturn, and plant the other on Arc-turus, and seize the Pleiads by the hair and wring them till they are dry, but he cannot wash out that town line."

The diggers who searched for gold in Maine found "small potatoes and but few in the hill." The proceeds will not pay for the tobacco chewed during the labor of digging, to say nothing of the cost of disappointment to be masticated afterward.

"What did you give for that horse neighbor?" "My note." "Well, that was cheap."

TO AN ABSENT ONE.

BY J. R. BARRICK.

I miss thee—oh, I miss thee,
In our home at close of day,
I miss thee in the morning's hour,
In the glow of evening's ray;
And the earth seems dark and dreary,
With a dreary sky above,
Since thy smile has wandered from me,
With its joyousness and love.

I miss thee—oh, I miss thee,
Where e'er I chance to stray;
I miss thee in the hush of eve,
When its shadows dim my way;
For thy presence wove a halo
Round my lone and weary hours,
As the spirit art of beauty
Weaves a glory round the flowers.

I miss thee—oh, I miss thee,
In the day and in the night;
I miss thee in the twilight hour
When the stars are shining bright;
Where'er I chance to wander,
Where'er I chance to be,
On my heart and on my spirit
Steals a burning thought of thee.

I miss thee—oh, I miss thee,
In the shadowy realms of sleep;
I miss thee in the night's deep shades,
That across my spirit creep;
And the silent land of slumber
Hath no pleasant dreams for me,
Since I wander mid its shadows,
Lonely, and afar from thee.

I miss thee—oh, I miss thee,
Where'er my footsteps roam;
I miss thee in the world abroad,
In the quiet of our home;
And there rests a lonely shadow
On the face of nature now,
And a shade of care is stealing
On my heart and on my brow.

I miss thee—oh, I miss thee,
In my own deep solitude;
I miss thee in the weary hours
That above my spirit brood;
And to me all nature's dreary,
As in eclipse the while,
Since thou art not here to bless me
With the sunshine of thy smile.

RARE CHANCE FOR LAWYERS.—The Minnesota Pioneer advertises for one hundred able bodied lawyers, who are wanted immediately in that new country. They will be employed in splitting rails, clearing woodland, and breaking up prairie soil, for suitable fees. This is the best chance for the profession we have seen offered for some time. Those who accept it will perhaps confer a benefit on both the country to which they go, and on that which they leave behind.

The man who beat out his wife's brains with a bar of soft soap, was, at the latest advices, "bound over"—to the world's fair.

The most approved Grahamite diet for invalids, is a cedar shingle fried in sawdust batter, washed down by a half pint of brown treacle.

CAN'S PUT IT OUT.—Some cute chap has published a protest against the project of extinguishing the fires of Vesuvius by introducing the waters of the Mediterranean through a canal into the base of the mountain. He fears that the effect would be to blow up the earth, or at least to blow off that side of the globe, when the machinery being thrown out of gear, we should go to pot, or fly to the moon in double quick time.

YOUNG MEN'S ALBANY TOAST.—"The young men of Albany—the young men of this generation:—May they live forever, but may the Constitution of the Union outlive them all!"

"Why don't you put on a clean shirt?" said a swell the other night to his companion, "then the girls will smile upon you as they do upon me." "Every body can't afford to wear a clean shirt every day as you can," was the reply. "Why not?" said white collar. "Because," said soiled collar, "every body's mother is not a wash-woman!"

FINE FELLOWS.—The man who never refuses to lend you money, and the fellow who is courting your sister.

CORRUPTION OF WORDS.—Take, for example, the word kerchief. There is no doubt that this word is derived from the French *couvre chef*, and obviously meant a covering for the head. Brevity converted *couvre chef* into kerchief. This was well enough for colloquial purposes, and no great harm done. By degrees, however, having occasion to enlarge the application of the word for our convenience, we flung etymology to the winds, and coined the word handkerchief, which, broken up in constituent parts, means literally a head cover for the hand. The force of absurdity would seem incapable of going beyond this; but worse remains behind. Having reconciled our consciences to handkerchiefs there was no difficulty in finding kerchief in like manner for all possible purposes; accordingly we have manufactured a pocket handkerchief, which means a head cover for the hand to go into the pocket, and a neck handkerchief or head cover for the hand to be tied round the neck.

The faculty of genius is the power of lighting its own fire.

MARRIED AND UNMARRIED LADIES.

—The situation of a married and an unmarried female, it must be confessed, is very unequal; the former having greatly the advantage in the scale of earthly happiness; and the world makes the distinction still more unequal than nature intended it. At 35, the married woman is considered in the noon of life; while the single woman is looked upon as *passée*.—Again the wife has less necessity to depend on intellectual pleasures as resources against the lassitude of *ennui*. She has duties to perform, let her station in life be what it may, to which the single woman cannot turn to vary the monotony of her existence. The matron, if she be a mother, will find sufficient stimulus to keep up or revive, in the early instruction which it is one of the woman's sweetest privileges to give her offspring, the knowledge and accomplishments which she learned in her own youth. What pleasure can be higher or more unalloyed to the bestower—what sight more enduring to the beholder—than a matron, o'er whose brow the shadow of Time, like that on the dial, has passed, yet left much of the sunny light of life behind, leading her fair daughter to emulate the graces of which she herself is so fair a pattern? Or to mark a son, in all the pride of youthful manhood, paying back with love, little short of adoration, the cares of her whose gentle instructions first lured him to seek the wider paths of knowledge, and at whose knee his infant prayer was first breathed!—Other feelings grow cold—other memories pass away; but the gentle images of the mother who has watched our childhood—her love, her tenderness, her unwearied devotion, will forever be mirrored in the human heart.

NEW EPIDEMIC.—A friend of ours went home to dinner from his place of business, the other day, in his usual state of health. His appetite was good, his pulse even, and his digestive powers unimpaired. Scarcely had he taken the first mouthful of soup, however, before he discovered that it possessed an unusual saccharine flavor. He set his plate aside and tried the fish; it was decidedly a sweet shad. He had no better luck with his roast beef and vegetable. Every thing he tasted became sweet, and he at last gave up in some alarm, and started to consult his family physician, in relation to these extraordinary symptoms.

The medical man looked at his tongue, felt his pulse, and tried the other usual tests, without reaching the cause of his disorder. He looked puzzled; but at last a happy thought struck him. "My friend," said he, "there is a superabundance of saccharine particles in your blood. The symptom is very unusual and alarming. It is a case of *hedurepsia*." Hereupon, with a grave face, he wrote an imposing prescription, and delivered it to our friend, who posted off to commence a course of cure. Next day fortunately, there was no return of the symptoms; because, in the meantime, the powdered sugar had been poured out of the salt-cellar!

Two thousand troops of the regular army are at this moment stationed on, or have been transferred to, the Mexican and Texas frontiers, to enforce the provisions of the treaty of Guadalupe. Gen. Persifer F. Smith succeeds Gen. Brooke in command in Texas. Gen. Hitchcock succeeds Gen. Smith on the West Pacific division. Col. Sumner succeeds Col. Munroe in New Mexico. Col. Harney serves under Gen. Smith. These officers are among the flower of the army, and have been selected with special reference to the delicate and important duties to which they have been assigned. Formal instructions have been issued by the Secretary of War to revise the policy and reinvigorate the administration of military affairs at different stations, and to protect the persons and property of Mexican citizens with the same care as our own.—*St. Louis Repub.*

STATE TAX ON UNITED STATES PROPERTY.—The old question of the rights of the States to impose a tax upon property belonging to the Federal Government has been revived at Carlisle, (Pa.) where a tax was imposed upon the United States Barracks, and some horses levied upon to enforce payments. Judge Kane has granted a special injunction, upon the application of the United States District Attorney, restraining the sale of the horses until the question can be decided at the October term of the United States District Court.